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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION MCT-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 MED-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05
SYE-00 SVC-00 EUR-12 SAA-01 USSS-00 A-02 OPR-02
OCS-06 CA-01 HA-05 COME-00 ACDA-12 GSA-02 SMS-01
/106 W

-----033623 141022Z /15

Z 140950Z FEB 79
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 2174
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD FLASH

CONFIDENTIAL KABUL 1082

E.O. 12065: GDS 2-14-85 (AMSTUTZ, J. BRUCE) OR-M
SUBJECT: MURDER OF AMBASSADOR DUBS: PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS:
SITREP NO. 14

1. ACCORDING TO OUR RMO DR. ROTZ, AMBASSADOR DUBS DIED AT 1305 HOURS KABUL TIME, FEBRUARY 14
 2. IT IS NOW 1350 HOURS AND UP TO THIS MOMENT WE HAVE HEARD NOTHING FROM THE DRA EXPRESSING REGRET OR ANY COMMENT WHATSOEVER ABOUT THE INCIDENT. I FEEL THEIR ACTIONS TO DATE HAVE BEEN THOROUGHLY DEPLORABLE. NOT ONLY DID THEY CONSISTENTLY DISREGARD OUR PLEAS TO TAKE NO FORCED ACTION, IN CONTRAVENTION OF THEIR EARLIER PROMISES THAT THEY WOULD REFRAIN FROM ANY SUCH ACTION, BUT THEY HAVE IN MY VIEW ACTED CALLOUSLY THROUGHOUT THIS AFFAIR.
 3. TWO THINGS STRIKE ME FORCIBLY ABOUT THE DRAS HANDLING OF THIS MATTER. ONE IS THAT THE POLICE AT THE HOTEL AND APPARENTLY TAROON IN THE INTERIOR MINISTRY WERE BEING ADVISED (IF NOT UNDER THE COMMAND) OF SOVIET ADVISORS. WE DO NOT KNOW OF COURSE WHAT EXACT ADVICE WAS GIVEN BY THE SOVIETS BUT IT IS TEMPTING TO CONCLUDE
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IT WAS FOR PRECIPITOUS ACTION.

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4. THE OTHER FACTOR IS THAT THE GOVERNMENT SEEMED HELLBENT IN CRUSHING THE TERRORISTS FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL REASONS IRRESPECTIVE OF THE RISKS THIS MIGHT ENTAIL FOR AMBASSADOR DUBS.

5. I REALIZE THAT I AM DICTATING THIS IN THE HEAT OF EMOTION AND A FULLER, LATER MORE DISPASSIONATE REPORT MAY THROW A SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT LIGHT ON THE MATTER. MEANWHILE WE ARE PROCEEDING TO PREPARE A DETAILED ACCOUNT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF WHAT OCCURRED ON THIS TRAGIC DAY.
AMSTUTZ

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